

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
February 1, 1939

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. McIntire	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

~~PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: SEYMOUR WEISS

Dear Sir:

According to (recent) news dispatch in New Orleans, the claim of the Federal Government against Colonel SEYMOUR WEISS, Manager of the Roosevelt Hotel, for income tax violation, has been settled for approximately \$38,000.00. (You will recall that WEISS was formerly under indictment in this district,) and the charges were quashed, and the matter never came to trial.

The case against A. I. SHUSHAN, associate of WEISS, has not as yet been disposed of and hearings on his case are being held in New Orleans at the present time.

In a recent news dispatch some information was given relative to the history of WEISS, and his present business connections are set forth. You may be interested to know in 1931 he became president and managing director of the New Orleans Roosevelt Corporation, and he is Vice-President of the corporation owning the Belmont-Plaza Hotel in New York City. He is president of the Jacobs Candy Company of New Orleans, the New Orleans Baseball Club, the Board of Commissioners, Port of New Orleans; the Commissioner of Fire and Police of New Orleans; national treasurer of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress; a member of the Rotary Club, Young Men's Business Club, and several golf clubs."

The historical article relative to him which appeared in the New Orleans Item of January 15, 1939 is enclosed for your information.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD
Special Agent in Charge

RBH:ALS
Enclosure

62-53007-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON Tamm ONE HITEOLS

DECLASSIFIED BY 1259
ON 11-14-78

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP 11-14-78

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New Orleans Item
January 15, 1939

Did You Know This About...

By J. T. ARMSTRONG

Colonel Weiss has probably broken all records for being a colonel. He has received this honorary title from six governors. In addition to that, he was given the title of ranger by a governor of Texas. He has the unique distinction of having served on the staffs of five governors all at the same time.

His outstanding childhood memory is a 160-mile train ride from Bunkie, La., his birthplace, to Abbeville, La., where his family moved when he was about four years old. The thrill of boarding a real train and watching the scenery slide by for the first time still lingers.

His greatest youthful ambition was to work in a livery stable. Livery stables were then a center of activity and he loved horses so much that he gladly carried them and hitched them up free of charge. Since he was a youth he has always managed to own horses.

When he finds time to read, which he admits is seldom, he reads history. As a hotel executive, he has paid more attention to music of the popular variety than to literature. He has always been partial to Hawaiian music; considers it the most soothing variety. He has a large collection of Hawaiian records and prefers a singing guitar to any other instrument. (His penchant for Hawaiian music is reflected by the Hawaiian Blue Room at Hotel Roosevelt, which he opened with a Hawaiian band.)

Although the cuisine at the hotel he operates is widely regarded as excellent, Colonel Weiss does not fancy himself as a gourmet. He likes to eat so well that he might better be classed as a gourmand, or possibly, he says, as a glutton. If he were to choose just one dish for a steady diet, it would be chicken. He loves chicken fried, baked, stewed, fricaseed or any other way, just so it's served with rice and gravy. He is a fairly good cook; best at frying steaks, bacon or ham or making salads that require perfect dressings.

He is rated by experts as one of the nation's best-dressed men.

Colonel Weiss once worked as a clerk in a shoe store in New Orleans. If his employer had not died and the store gone out of business, he believes he still might be a pretty good shoe clerk. When the store closed, he obtained a job at the Grunewald hotel, now the Roosevelt, as manager of the hotel barber shop; salary \$25 per week. After four months he resigned but the hotel management felt he had possibilities; gave him new assignments in various parts of the house. He became business promotion manager; assistant manager and in 1929 he became manager.

Colonel Seymour Weiss



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He is firmly convinced that the breaks in life are the ruling factors in success or failure.

He believes the most essential qualification for a successful hotel man is a genuine love for people and a constant desire to serve them. He hasn't taken a drink of intoxicating liquor in the hotel since he entered the business and doesn't allow employees of the Roosevelt to drink on duty.

His principal diversions are horse-back riding and golf. He has branched into numerous civic and business enterprises, but he con-

siders the hotel business his career. His greatest ambition is to be a successful hotel operator.

(Biographical Note: Colonel Seymour Weiss was born in Bunkie, La., September 13, 1896, and moved with his family to Abbeville, La., when a small boy. He received a brief formal education before he took his first job as a clerk in a store in Alexandria, La. He kept this job until 1917, when he went to an army training camp.

When he was discharged from the army in 1918 he obtained a job in a New Orleans shoe store. The store eventually went out of business and he went to work for the old Grunewald hotel, now the Roosevelt, becoming manager in 1929 and vice-president in 1930. In 1931 he became president and managing director of the New Orleans Roosevelt Corp., a position which he still holds. He is vice-president of the corporation which owns the Belmont Plaza in New

York; president of the Jacob Candy Company, New Orleans; president of the New Orleans Baseball club (which he considers a purely civic venture); president of the Board of Commissioners, Port of New Orleans; commissioner of fire and police of New Orleans; national treasurer of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress; a member of the Rotary club, Young Men's Business Club, Association of Commerce, and of three golf clubs, Metairie, Audubon and West End. He lives with Mrs. Weiss at the Roosevelt hotel.)

TELETYPE

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FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-7-39 12-52 PM WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. RICHARD W
LECHE, SEYMOUR WEISS AND FREEMAN BURFORD, PRESIDENT EAST TEXAS
REFINING COMPANY, INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY NEW ORLEANS TODAY
INDICTMENT CHARGING DEFENDANTS WITH VIOLATION OF THE CONNALLY ACT
AND FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, IN THAT THEY IMPAIRED THE
OPERATI OF THE STATUTE. THIS INDICTMENT CHARGES THAT IN NINETEEN
THIRTY SEVEN THE DEFENDANTS RECEIVED ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND
EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS, OF WHICH MARTIN VIXREY, BURFORDS ATTORNEY,
A CONSPIRATOR BUT NOT A DEFENDANT, GOT FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED
DOLLARS AND THAT WEISS GOT THE REMAINDER, WHICH HE EQUALLY DIVIDED
WITH LECHE. THE SECOND INDICTMENT RETURNED TODAY CHARGES WEISS WITH
FAILING TO MAKE INCOME TAX RETURN ON SEVENTY SIX THOUSAND THREE
HUNDRED DOLLARS INNINETEEN THIRTYSIX, AND THAT THE SIXTY SEVEN
THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED HE PAID TO LECHE WAS NOT PROPERTY DEDUCTABLE,
AS LECHE PERFORMED NO SERVICE. A THIRD INDICTMENT RETURNED TODAY
CHARGES SEYMOUR WEISS AND LOUIS LESAGE WITH CONSPIRACY SINCE
NINETEEN THIRTYSIX, IN THAT LESAGE INCLUDED TWENTYFIVE THOUSAND
DOLLARS IN HIS INCOME TAX RETURN WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE RETURN
OF SEYMOUR WEISS, THIS MONEY HAVING BEEN RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH

RECORDED & INDEXED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 12 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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PAGE TWO

THE SALE OF THE BIENVILLE HOTEL FIXTURES. USA RENE VIOSCA ADVISED THAT ON AUGUST FOURTEENTH NINETEEN THIRTYNINE TWENTYFIVE NAMES WILL BE DRAWN FROM THE JURY BOX TO SUPPLEMENT THE PRESENT PETTY JURY PANEL. VIOSCA REQUESTED THESE ADDITIONAL PERSONS, AFTER BEING DRAWN, BE INVESTIGATED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRESENT PETTY JURY INVESTIGATION. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE BUREAU ADVISE IF AUTHORIZED.

SACKETT

42

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL ATTACHÉ
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MEXICO CITY

March 23, 1944

R. Rosen
Mr. M. H. Norton
W. Schreckel

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: SEYMOUR WEISS
Mexico Latin American Matters

Shipwreck
Kelly

Dear Sir:

There are set forth herein the contents of a memorandum supplied to me by SIS 357 relative to a conversation he had on February 13, 1944, in New Orleans, Louisiana, with SEYMOUR WEISS, who is well-known to the Bureau:

Edw
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" On February 13, 1944, I had dinner in New Orleans, Louisiana, with SEYMOUR WEISS, former righthand man of HUEY LONG and owner of the Roosevelt Hotel, and of whom I have spoken before. Mr. WEISS told me that he spent sixteen months in the Atlanta Penitentiary, that the Warden was the toughest man he had ever met, and that all of the 4,000 inmates would much prefer being in Alcatraz. Mr. WEISS also told me that his friends, FRANK MURPHY and J. EDGAR HOOVER, were his guests at the Roosevelt Hotel just before he was indicted. I asked Mr. WEISS if J. EDGAR HOOVER could have helped him, and he said no; that HOOVER's hands were tied, but that the FBI did not investigate his case.

RECORDED

Mr. WEISS said that his trouble was caused by politics and that he said that he would never again have anything to do with politics, stating that he left Louisiana now always a few days before any election so that he could not be identified in any way whatsoever with politics. Mr. WEISS said that the mistake he made was in trying to make HUEY LONG's brother Governor after HUEY LONG's death. He said he did not realize that the President of the United States, who disliked HUEY very much, would take it

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'upon himself to personally have an investigation made of Louisiana and all of LONG's former political associates, but he said Roosevelt definitely did this, and through FRANK MURPHY, arranged to have the trial just before the Governor's election, which definitely put the jury on the spot where they could render nothing but a guilty verdict against the people who were being tried.

Mr. WEISS said he did only one thing to try to help his situation. He said he knew that if the trial came up before the election, he would definitely be convicted due to the feeling of the people in Louisiana after the investigation and indictment. He said that he offered \$50,000 to Senator WHEELER, who at that time was very prominent. If the Senator would just go to FRANK MURPHY and have the trial postponed until after the election. Mr. WEISS said that Senator WHEELER refused to do this, stating that Senator WHEELER said that he expected to be a Presidential candidate and he did not want in any way to get mixed up in the Louisiana situation. Mr. WEISS also said that when HUEY LONG was alive, the Louisiana political machine was the strongest you could possibly have, stating that every office holder in the State had to belong to HUEY's party. WEISS said that EARL LONG, HUEY's brother who ran for the Governorship, had all of HUEY's bad traits and not one of his good ones. Mr. WEISS said that since his return, people had been very nice to him, that his business was booming, and that things were coming along well. "

Very truly yours,

Birch D. O'Neal

Birch D. O'Neal
Civil Attaché

BDO'N:MKI

The Roosevelt

NEW ORLEANS 9, LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

January 7, 1949.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Today I received from our Chicago Representatives - Leonard Hicks Jr. & Associates - a copy of your letter of December 9th with the Consolidated List of Organizations designated by the Attorney General as within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

This is indeed fine work - and we are always anxious and willing to cooperate with our government.

It may interest you to know that we were approached by the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born - but our facilities were exhausted - and we were unable to grant their request.

Call us at anytime that we can be helpful.

Sincerely,

Seymour Weiss
Seymour Weiss,
President & Managing Director

THE ROOSEVELT.

RB/jb.

RECORDED - 138

JAN 10 1949

JAN 27 1949

The
ROOSEVELT
NEW ORLEANS 40, LA.

Jones

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
SEYMOUR WEISS
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

December 29, 1960

Dear Clyde:

I received and thoroughly appreciated your good wishes for the Holiday Season, which you may be assured are heartily reciprocated.

It pleased me very much to know that you were thinking about me and I hope if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, you will not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Seymour Weiss
Seymour Weiss.

Mr. Clyde Tolson
Apt. 1316
4000 Mass. Ave., N. W.
Washington 16, D. C.

EX-100

REC-39

SW:E

16 JAN 9 1961

*Please name
on special
mailing
list*

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62 JAN 12 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

*1-4 cl
mem*

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The
ROOSEVELT
NEW ORLEANS 40, LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
SEYMOUR WEISS
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

May 31, 1961

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingram	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

[Handwritten signature]

Honorable John Edgar Hoover
% United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just read "These Fighters Against Youth Crime Need Your Help" which appeared in the April issue of the Readers Digest, and on which I should like to congratulate you, and I can only hope that your fine article will get the distribution it deserves, as I am confident it will do a lot of good.

I think it would be interesting to you to know that a few years ago we raised the money for a Catholic Church located in one of the poorest and toughest neighborhoods in our city to build a gymnasium for the boys in the surrounding neighborhood. I have recently learned through our excellent Police Department that since the gymnasium has been built, there has been less crime committed in that neighborhood than in any other section of our city.

You are a great American Mr. Hoover, and I am particularly proud of the privilege of being able to call you my friend, and I sincerely hope that some day you will accept my many invitations to come down and visit our very interesting city. Nothing would please me more than to have you as my guest.

In the meantime, if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, please do not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Respectfully & Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
Seymour Weiss.

ENCLOSURE
FINDING ATTACHED
SW:EA
[Handwritten notes]

EXP. PROC.

JUN 5 1961

REC-3

JUN 9 1961

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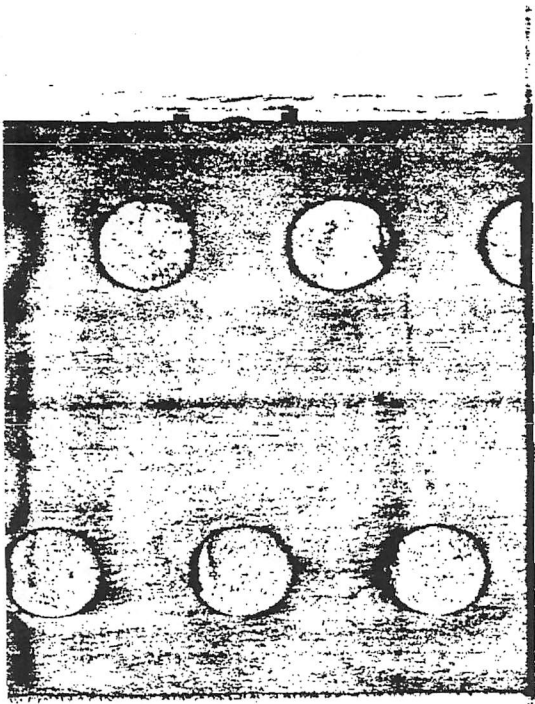


A Reader's Digest

These Fighters Against
Youth Crime
Need Your Help

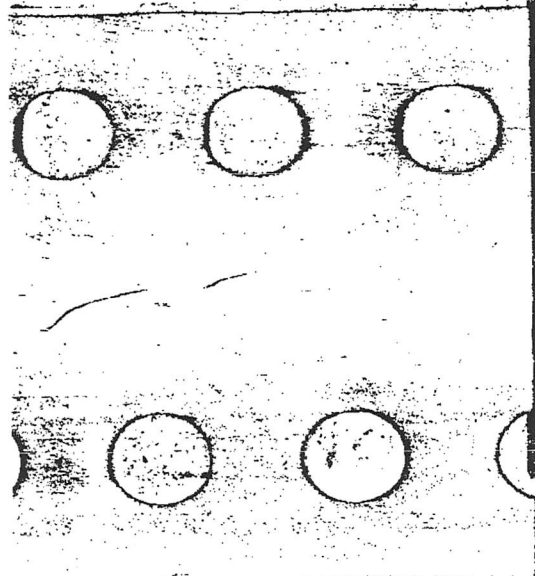
By JOHN EDGAR HOOVER

THE READER'S DIGEST • PLEASANTVILLE, NEW YORK



"They held a knife at my throat and threatened to kill my two little children if I resisted," one of the women said. "We pleaded with them, but they paid no attention."

Convicted of rape and assault, each of the five young thugs received 65-year sentences. The sentencing judge recommended that the youths never be paroled.



Tragically, similar acts of brutal violence are perpetrated daily across the country by rampaging teen-age criminals. Blazing headlines of murder, sadism and gang warfare toll the depredations of youthful criminals. An 18-year-old California art student obtained money to purchase books by robbing elderly people. Known as the "mugger bandit," he committed six vicious attacks on elderly victims which netted him \$70. Two of the victims, both elderly men, subsequently died as the result of the violent assaults. In describing his actions, the youth commented, "I picked on old men because they could not fight back."

Today youthful offenders account for one half of the burglary and larceny arrests in this country and nearly two thirds of the arrests for automobile thefts. And their rate of participation in more serious crimes—assault, robbery, rape, murder—is steadily rising.

If we are to continue living in a free and decent society, we must do much more than halt this trend; we must reverse it. Preoccupied with the pursuit of wealth and luxury, we seem to have lost touch with our

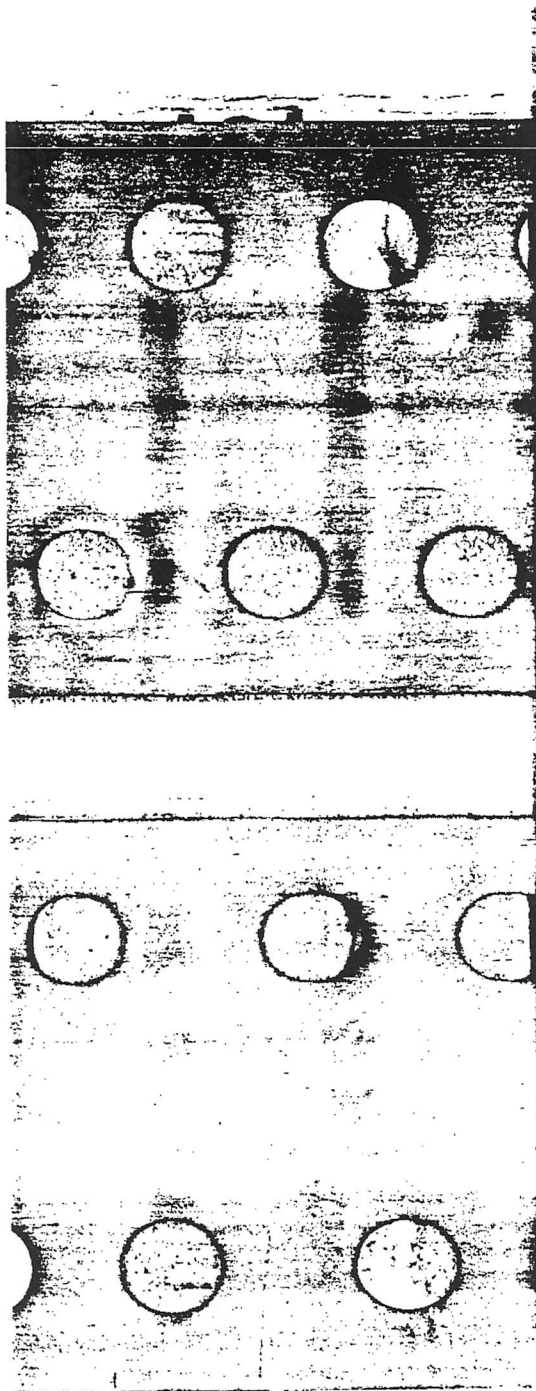
basic traditions—work, discipline, duty, honor. But if this nation is to survive, we must give our youngsters more chance to know and revere the spiritual concepts which are the real sinews of greatness.

We can help them best by committing ourselves unreservedly to a battle that an all-too-small vanguard of dedicated Americans has been fighting for us for years—the professional leaders and part-time volunteer workers of such groups as the Boys' Clubs of America, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, YMCA and YWCA, Police Athletic Leagues, and Catholic, Protestant and Jewish youth organizations. The results these groups achieve continually reaffirm my faith in the strength and appeal of the American idea, and my conviction that American youth, if given the opportunity, will eagerly accept honorable challenge.

Here are some heartening examples:

During the eight years following World War II there was a 61-percent increase in juvenile crime in Louisville, Ky. But during the same period there was a 52-percent decrease in one of Louisville's poorest, toughest areas. No new industry moved into this neighborhood to upgrade incomes; there was no decrease in the youth population; housing conditions were not improved. One thing happened: a Boys' Club was established there.

Within five years after a Boys' Club was organized in a delinquency-ridden area of Schenectady,



N.Y., there was an 80-percent decrease in youthful crime in that neighborhood. Results like these can be found in many of the 383 cities where 575 Boys' Clubs of America serve 600,000 lads.

The formula is simple. It consists of a genuine, active adult interest in youth; a deep respect and sympathy for the individual boy and girl, tempered with rigid, tough-minded adherence to the legal and moral principles which are the cornerstones of any decent society; and, above all, an unwavering faith in our youth, and Job-like patience in helping every youngster realize the best that is in him.

This formula has worked countless times. At the end of World War II one neighborhood just west of Chicago's Loop was virtually an armed camp, torn by bloody juvenile gang wars. The streets were not safe for women, night or day; children could not be sent to the grocery store with cash.

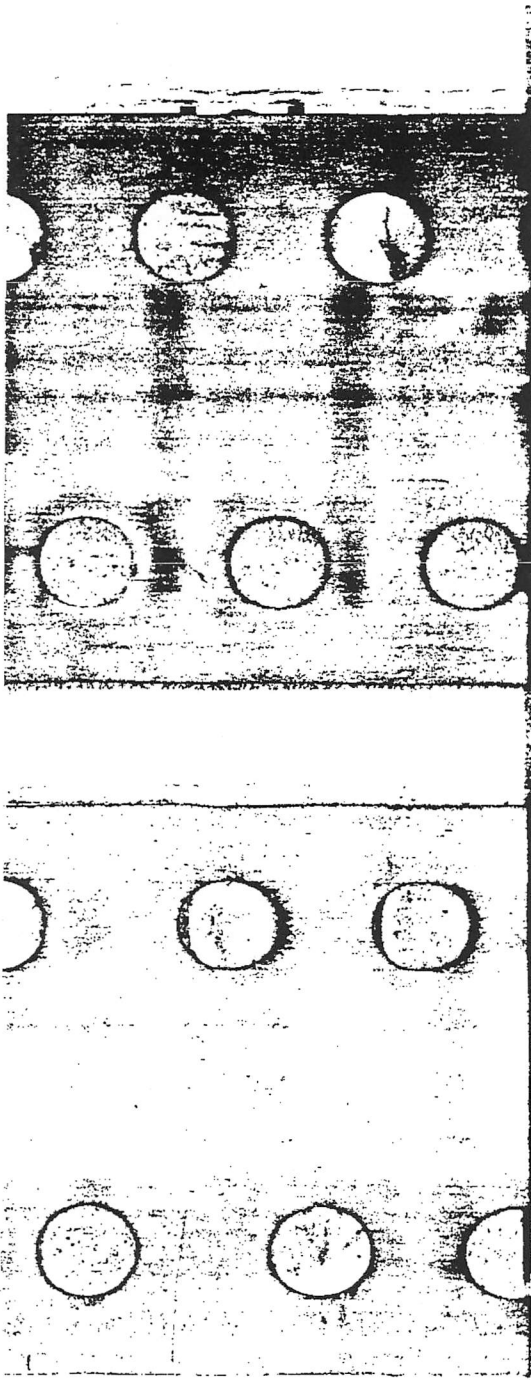
For ten years various social agencies tried to deal with these gangs with little success. Then, in 1955, a young Boys' Club extension worker whom we shall call Richard West began hanging about the pool halls and candy stores where the dominant, most vicious gang met. For months he studied the boys, listened to them, tried to talk with them. It wasn't easy. These boys came from homes filled with fearful frictions. Most had quit school. The gang was their refuge from the hostile world around them.

Rebuffed and threatened time and again, West doggedly shadowed the gang. When members were arrested, he would appear in court with them and speak in their behalf. He made the gang aware that arresting officers and judges listened to him. He was on call day and night for advice and whatever help he could provide.

Finally, one by one, gang members began coming to him with their problems. They found he could arrange loans when there was serious need—medical or dental problems, lack of food in the home. West kept watching, waiting for a display of interest he could seize on as a foundation for launching these youngsters into productive lives. Then he found it. Several times each week they would wander to a nearby high school to watch in absorbed silence as an ROTC unit performed military drill. Talking with the boys, West found they had deep respect for the kind of discipline which could produce precision drill. Here was a chance to get them active in a field in which they could win what they needed and wanted most desperately and had never had—adult support and praise.

From government surplus West obtained Army uniforms. Combat helmets were painted bright blue and white. Drums and bugles were provided. The boys learned fast. As a gang this group had flourished under iron discipline. Now the same discipline drove them toward perfection in military drill. Interest in gang feuds and hoodlumism

27



faded. They concentrated on mastering the fast, tricky cadences of the drill repertoire. Soon they were taking part in civic parades, performing at sports events and on television.

Their success as a drill team fired the imagination of rival gangs. Before long the drill teams in this area included more than 400 youngsters who had once belonged to 17 different gangs. A Boys' Club was built in the center of the area. Here boys worked off excess energy in all kinds of sports and discovered new interests in handicrafts, science, photography and drama. Gang structures disintegrated. Boys' Club workers stayed in close touch with parents, kept pointing to the worth and potentialities of their sons, awakened parental enthusiasm for the boys.

As a result of concerted adult direction and encouragement, many of these boys returned to high school; others found jobs and completed their high-school requirements during evenings in the Boys' Club library.

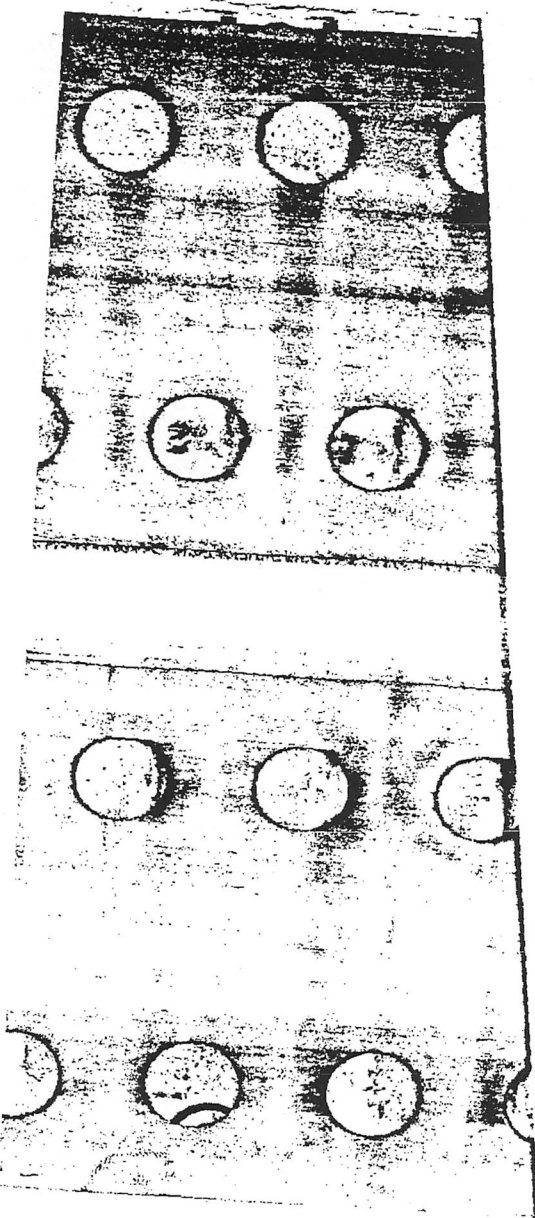
Today this Boys' Club thrives with a membership of more than 1000. This area, five years ago a spawning ground for big-time crime, is now a respectable neighborhood whose citizens can walk the streets unafraid, with pride in their children and hope for the future.

Some communities have done much to combat youthful criminality through wholesome recreational programs for their children. Great

progress is being made in areas where men and women care enough to do something about the problem. Seven years ago, the vast Surrey Lane area of St. Louis, Mo., faced with a growing juvenile-crime problem, did not have a single park or community center. Parents and youngsters of Surrey Lane went into action. With great effort and hard work they converted a tract of land, once a swamp, into a recreational area covering 31 acres. They raised money, cleared the land, built roads and constructed recreational facilities. And they did it as a family project—father and son, mother and daughter, young and old alike, united in the common endeavor. Today, with over 2000 youths participating in recreational activities, Surrey Lane's juvenile-crime rate is practically nil. Last year, the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa., honored Surrey Lane with the nation's first-place award for a community program.

The Boy Scout movement, too, has proved that when a worthy challenge is promoted among youngsters, it takes. In one year the crime rate in East Harlem was more than double that of any other section of New York City. Youthful gangs kept the 64-square-block area in terror. Scouters moved in. First they sold Scouting to the ruler of the ruling gang, an 18-year-old whom police suspected of organizing the gang wars which racked the community. Soon that gang—11 boys—

29



was a Scout troop, dedicated to the principle of helping people instead of hurting them.

More than 150 police departments in the United States now sponsor Boy Scout units, with some police officers serving as Scout leaders. We in the FBI are proud of the fact that nearly 50 percent of our FBI agents are former Boy Scouts.

In no instance have the Boys' Clubs of America or Boy Scouts designed "special programs" for dealing with problem boys. They have succeeded simply by providing adult friendship, guidance, worthy challenge, a desire for the rewards of disciplined living. Their achievements are a monument to the intrinsic worth of our youngsters, and a powerful lesson for us all.

It is long past time that every one of us understood the deadly nature of the sickness in our society and went to work on the cure. Each one of us must help turn back the tide of moral laxity and public apathy which threatens us. Our youth movements have proved it can be done. We must get interested in our children again—in what they read, see, hear and do.

And we must get tough with ourselves. We must stop governing our lives by expediency. Nothing is so infectious as example. We must measure our every act by the same single, simple, stringent criterion that made us a great nation: "Is it right?"

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REC-3 62-53007-10 June 8, 1961

EX-105

Mr. Seymour Weiss
President and Managing Director
The Roosevelt
New Orleans 40, Louisiana

Dear Seymour:

Your letter of May 31, 1961, has been received, and I want you to know that your comments regarding my recent article in "Reader's Digest" are a source of great encouragement to me. The example you cited, I believe, is an excellent illustration of the need for organized recreational activities as a deterrent to youthful criminality.

I do want to express my thanks for your kind sentiments. Your offer of hospitality and desire to be of service are most thoughtful, and I hope that at some future time it will be possible for me to visit your city.

Sincerely,

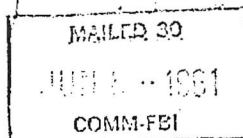
Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Egan _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



JUN 8 12 27 PM '61
FBI
READING ROOM

25

The
ROOSEVELT
NEW ORLEANS 40. LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
SEYMOUR WEISS
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

July 16, 1962

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received and appreciated very much your testimony before the House Sub-Committee on Appropriation and I should like to add my congratulations to the many I know you have received on the outstanding accomplishments of your great Department for the year ending June 30, 1962.

I feel that the entire population of our great country owes you and your fine Department a debt of gratitude which we shall never be able to pay and I can only hope that your health will permit you to continue to serve our country for many, many more years and, although I realize that I am presumptuous in offering to be of assistance to you, I hope if you ever feel I can be of service to you in any capacity, you will not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Respectfully and sincerely,

Seymour Weiss
Seymour Weiss.

SW:E

REC-65

62-53007-11

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EXP. PROC.

JUL 18 1962

24

The
ROOSEVELT
NEW ORLEANS 40. LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
SEYMOUR WEISS
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

July 16, 1963

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Honorable John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received, thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed your report to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and your report on the FBI's role in the field of civil rights.

First, I should like to congratulate you on your report of accomplishments to the Attorney General and my only comment on your role in the field of civil rights is fully covered in the last paragraph and, particularly, in the last four words, "without apologies to anyone", with which I agree.

It is almost incredible that you can continue to operate your important department without prejudice or partiality. You have earned and deserve the respect, admiration and gratitude of everyone in our great country and I hope that the good Lord will continue to bless you with good health so that you can serve our great country for many years to come.

I sincerely hope if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, you will not hesitate to call on me and, with my kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely and respectfully,

Seymour Weiss. JUL 25 1963

ENCLOSURE

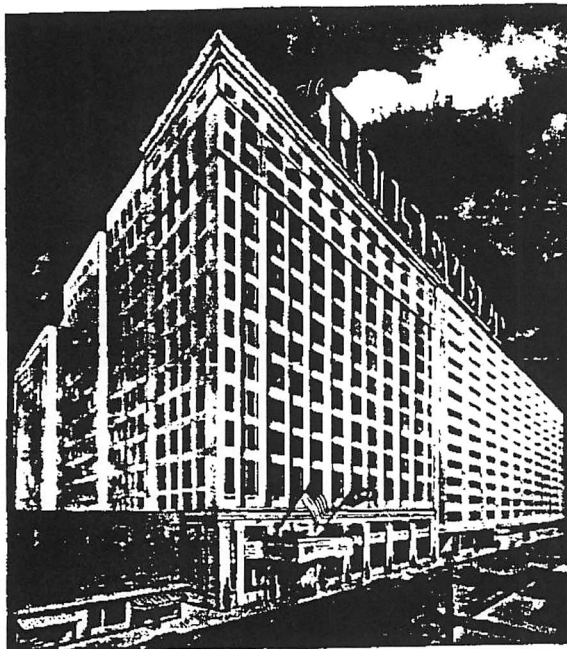
ENCLOSURE
SW:E

EXP. PROC.

JUL 19 1963

CORRESPONDENCE

20
C-13



*Details make perfection,
but perfection is no small thing . . .*

That's why nothing
was forgotten when
THE ROOSEVELT HOTEL
in New Orleans
planned its two-year
\$3,018,132 program...

We've just redecorated and refurnished every guest room, every suite, in our hotel. Nothing has been omitted which could contribute to the comfort and convenience of our guests.

Everything is smartly new—except the spacious size of our rooms and the high ceilings of a more gracious era.

The decor of each room is soft and relaxing. All carpeting, all drapes, are new and harmonize with new furniture and fixtures. Every bed and mattress is new; designed for luxurious comfort. TV and radio facilities are in every room.

We're proud of such things as a little light which flashes on the phone if a message or 'phone call arrives when a guest is away from the room—reminding him to call the desk.

To keep a step ahead, we've installed automatic telephone facilities which provide unexcelled service. It is no longer necessary to go through the hotel switchboard to call other rooms in our hotel, or to make local or long distance calls. You just dial the service you want, quickly and conveniently.

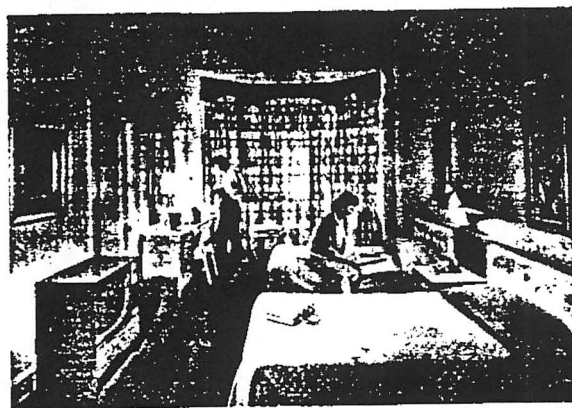
Air-conditioning is individually controlled to provide the "climate" desired.

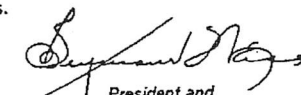
Adding to the picture of completeness are The Roosevelt's four famous dining rooms—including the popular Blue Room that features lilting dance music and America's finest entertainers in floor shows at dinner and supper hours.

To serve its 900 rooms with bath, The Roosevelt maintains a staff of 1100 employees—probably the highest ratio of personnel to rooms in America. This is done to assure our traditionally superior service.

When making reservations for yourself, friends or business acquaintances coming to New Orleans, write, wire or phone The Roosevelt—located in the heart of everything. Enjoy our traditionally fine service. We welcome the opportunity to be your host.

We offer free garage for registered guests and have family plan rates.



R 
President and
Managing Director
THE ROOSEVELT
PRIDE OF THE SOUTH
New Orleans 40, Louisiana
Tel: Area Code 504, 529-7111

117

62-53007-12

ENCLOSURE

~~94-15-15-10-2~~

22

REC- 65

57540 -

July 20, 1962

62-53007-11

Mr. Seymour Weiss
President and Managing Director
The Roosevelt
New Orleans 40, Louisiana

REC'D-READING ROOM

JUL 20 3 53 PM '62

FBI

Dear Seymour:

I have received your letter of the 16th and appreciate the thought prompting you to write.

It was kind of you to comment as you did regarding my appropriation testimony and the accomplishments of the FBI during the last fiscal year. Your generous expression of confidence is most encouraging, and you may be sure my only desire is to continue as Director as long as I can be of service to our country.

Thank you for your offer to be of assistance, and I trust you will not hesitate to contact my associates or me whenever we can be of any aid to you.

With every good wish,

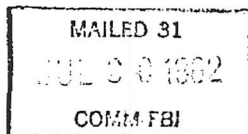
Sincerely,

Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondent's List on a first-name basis.

RVA:nlb (3)

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____



60 JUL 30 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

23

The
ROOSEVELT

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70140

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
SEYMOUR WEISS
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

July 21, 1964

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Honorable John Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You were very kind to send me the uniform crime reports for the year of 1963, which I regret to advise are frightening. 1962 was a horrible year for crime and in the summary of your '63 report, in 1963 there was a 10% increase. Other statistics are just as alarming.

Unfortunately, your great organization is restricted under the law in participating in many instances where I am confident you could and would be extremely helpful in solving many crimes.

Mr. Hoover, you have earned and deserve the magnificent reputation which you and your great organization enjoy and I can only hope that the good Lord will permit you to continue to enjoy good health so that you may carry on for many years to come.

With assurance of my desire to be of service to you at all times and my kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely and respectfully,

Seymour Weiss
Seymour Weiss.

REC-123

17 JUL 24 1964

CCI
Mailing List
Change Noted
7-98-64

CORRESPONDENCE
18

SW:E

*ack 7-28-64
C-55/100*

EX-102

July 23, 1963

EX - 140

REC-23

62-53007-12
~~44-57540-2~~

Mr. Seymour Weiss
President and Managing Director
The Roosevelt
New Orleans 40, Louisiana

Dear Seymour:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter of July 16th, with enclosure, and I want to thank you for your very kind remarks. Your continuing support means a great deal to all of us in the FBI, and we sincerely hope our future efforts will also merit your approbation.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,
Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis

DCM:nlb (3)

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

FBI
REC'D MAIL ROOM

MAILED 25
JUL 23 1963
COMM-FBI

53 AUG 2 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JUL 23 10 35 AM '63
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

July 28, 1964

REC-123

62-53007-13

~~94-57340-3~~

EX-102

Mr. Seymour Weiss
President and Managing Director
The Roosevelt
New Orleans, Louisiana 70140

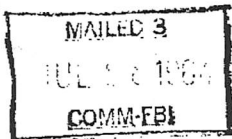
Dear Seymour:

I received your note of July 21st and want to thank you for giving me the benefit of your observations concerning the crime rate.

It was typically thoughtful of you to comment as you did, and I deeply appreciate the best wishes you extended. Your continued support over the years has always meant a great deal to me.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,



J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents List and is known to the Director on a first-name basis.

CJJ:sls
(3)

Red 2

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evens _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

148

17 AUG 6 1964

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM
JUL 28 11 15 AM '64

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[Handwritten initials]

17

Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

August 16, 1966

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. DeLoach ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Mr. Wick ✓
Mr. Casper ✓
Mr. Callahan ✓
Mr. Conrad ✓
Mr. Felt ✓
Mr. Gale ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Sullivan ✓
Mr. Tavel ✓
Mr. Trotter ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Miss Holmes ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Justice Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received and thoroughly appreciated your sending me the Statement made by you to the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws concerning the 18th National Convention of the Communist Party, which was held June 22-26, 1966. It is undoubtedly the most enlightening and frightening document I have ever read and, of course, I have a great appreciation for the fact that you are so thoroughly familiar with the Communist Party's activities in our great country and, as one who loves our country, I feel that I and all of the people of America owe you a debt of gratitude, which we will never be able to pay.

I regret very much that it has been such a long time since I have had the pleasure of seeing you, but look forward to seeing you in the near future. In the meantime, if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, please do not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards,

Sincerely and respectfully,

SW/md

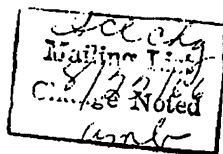
Seymour Weiss

EXP. PROC.

AUG 19 1966

REC 30

15 AUG 24 1966



August 23, 1966

REC 30

EX-117

~~44-57570-4~~
62-53007-14
①
Honorable Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Dear Seymour:

Your letter of August 16th has been received, and I am glad to know of your interest in my statement concerning the 18th National Convention of the Communist Party, USA. The complimentary remarks you expressed regarding my work mean much to me, and I want to convey my appreciation. Thank you for your generous offer to be of service.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

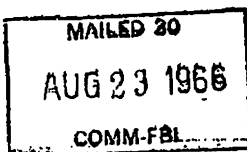
Edgar

1 - New Orleans - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is President and Managing Director of The Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans and he is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

JRP:jss (4)

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____



56 SEP 2 1966

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
AUG 23 3 36 PM '66

15

6
Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Wick	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

January 9, 1967

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just received and thoroughly enjoyed reading your Release dated January 5th, and I appreciate very much your having sent it to me.

As a citizen of our great country, I am grateful to you and your organization in the fine work you have done and are doing in protecting the best interests of our country, and I hope that the Good Lord will continue to permit you to enjoy good health and that the powers of our government officials will continue to induce you to remain the head of the great organization which you have built and are responsible for.

Mr. Hoover, I thought you would be interested in learning that recently our government donated to Delgado Vocational College, of which I have the honor to be President, 29-1/2 acres of what was previously Jackson Barracks, located in our City, and on which Delgado will create what I think will be one of the finest police and fireman's academy in the country. I am highly enthusiastic about the potentialities of our police academy and I shall keep you advised on our progress.

Although presumptuous on my part, I hope if you ever feel I can be of service to you in any capacity you will not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

REC 67, Sincerely and respectfully,

SW/md

Seymour Weiss

VIA AIR MAIL

10 JAN 16 1967

EXP. PROC.

JAN-10-1967

201
201K
1-12-67
BCH:mjb

14

RA

January 12, 1967

REC 67

~~94-57540-5~~
62-53007-15

Honorable Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

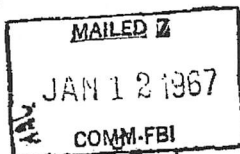
Dear Seymour:

I have received your letter of January 9th and want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing and offer of assistance. Your expression of confidence in my work and kind sentiments are appreciated.

I am pleased to learn you found my summary of our activities to be of interest and that your college is going to provide a training academy for law enforcement officers and firemen. It is my belief that the demands of modern society have vastly broadened the scope and increased the complexities of law enforcement problems. The ultimate fulfillment of these responsibilities lies in the recruiting and training of men of character, imagination, intellect and a strong sense of dedication to the public service. The failure or success of law enforcement hinges on the available training opportunities. I look forward to the time when all law enforcement agencies are operating on a truly professional basis.

Sincerely,

Edgar



NOTE: Correspondent is on the Special Correspondents' List and is known to the Director on a first-name basis.

BGH:mjb (3)

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

FEB 3 1967

TELETYPE UNIT

100002 70130 1967

13

23
Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

June 20, 1967

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just read the brilliant speech which you delivered before the Regional Conference on Crime Prevention of the Michigan State Bar at Rochester, Michigan, on June 8th, and on which I should like to congratulate you.

I am sure that those who were fortunate enough to be present were as much impressed with that which you had to say as I was.

The existing conditions, which you described, are alarming and frightening and I consider the people of America extremely fortunate in having you and your great organization protecting us against such great odds, and I can only hope that the good Lord will continue to permit you to enjoy good health so that you may continue to do the great work which you have done and are doing for all of our people.

Although I realize I am being terribly presumptuous, if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity please do not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely and respectfully,

SW/md

Seymour Weiss
Seymour Weiss

VIA AIR MAIL

REC 3

ST-105

EXP. PROC.

40 JUN 21 1967

62-53007-16

23
9 JUN 21 1967

CONFIDENTIAL

12

SEL

June 22, 1967

REC 3

ST-105

62-53007-14
Honorable Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Dear Seymour:

Your letter of June 20th has been received, and it is always a pleasure to hear from you. I very much appreciate your kind sentiments and complimentary remarks regarding my speech, "Faith, Freedom and Law." Your communication serves as a source of encouragement for me.

Thank you for your generous offer to be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Edgar

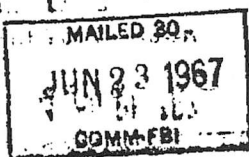
1 - New Orleans - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

JRP:acp

(4) acp

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____



55 JUN 29 1967

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D CIV
FBI
JUN 25 5 10 PM '67

Sh

JRP

W

&

a

Handwritten signature

11

Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

August 10, 1967

AUG 10 1967

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received and know that I am indebted to you for having sent me the Uniform Crime Reports for the year 1966, which I found most interesting and enlightening.

I am grateful to you for continuing to think about me and I should like to reiterate my very sincere desire to be of assistance to you if ever you feel I can be of service to you in any capacity.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely and respectfully,

SW/md

Seymour Weiss
Seymour Weiss

REC 13

AUG 18 1967

EXP. PROC.

AUG 11 1967

ack
8/14/67
14

33

10

REC 13

August 16, 1967

62-53007-17

Dep't. Gen.

Honorable Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Dear Seymour:

It was most thoughtful of you to write on August 10th concerning the Uniform Crime Reports bulletin for 1966, and I want to thank you for your offer of assistance and for your warm sentiments.

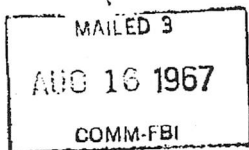
With kindest regards,

Sincerely,
Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

GEM:mel (3)

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____



372
50 AUG 25 1967

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

July 9, 1969

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Honorable John Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received and thoroughly enjoyed reading the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, dated July 1969, and I should like to congratulate you on your Message from the Director which I thought was outstanding.

I shall always recall a statement which you made to me many, many years ago to the effect that we will never get rid of corruption as long as we have corrupt officials, and your statement then certainly applies today.

Of course, I am delighted that you decided to remain as the head of your very great department and I hope that the good Lord will spare you to remain the head for many years in the future.

I realize that I am being presumptuous in offering to be of assistance to you, but if you ever feel I can be of service to you in any capacity, please do not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards. EX. 117

Sincerely and respectfully,
15 JUL 17 1969

Seymour Weiss
Seymour Weiss

SW/md

Via Air Mail

EXP. PROC.

32 JUL 11 1969

ack
7-16-69
AIR/ECW

8

July 16, 1969

REC 16

62-53007-18
Honorable Seymour Weiss
National American Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Dear Seymour:

Thank you for your kind remarks and
expressions of support in your letter of July 9th.

I was most pleased to learn that you found
my message in the July issue of the FBI Law Enforcement
Bulletin of interest. It was certainly thoughtful of you to
comment as you did concerning it and I want you to know
of my sincere appreciation.

With kindest regards,

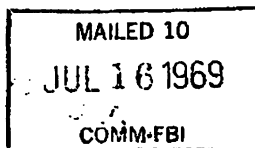
Sincerely,

Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents List and is
known to the Director on a first-name basis.

ALA:cac (3)
cac

Red
Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____



50 AUG - 11 1969

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

7

FBI

Date: 9/18/69

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: Director, FBI
FROM: SAC, New Orleans (73-327)
RE: SEYMOUR WEISS
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

There is attached a newspaper clipping from the New Orleans Times-Picayune dated 9/18/69 which reflects that SEYMOUR WEISS died Wednesday night, 9/17/69, after suffering an apparent heart attack while attending a meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

This is submitted for the information of the Bureau and for the completion of its files.

New Orleans files reflect limited correspondence from the Director to Mr. WEISS, one in 1966 and one in 1967.

② Bureau (Encl. 1) ENCLOSURE
1 - New Orleans
RER:jam
(3)

REC 17

62-53007-19

SEP 20 1969

EX-103

D. C. Bishop

CRIME RESEARCH

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

4

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

BUSINESS, CIVIC LEADER IS DEAD

Seizure in Baton Rouge Kills Seymour Weiss

New Orleans business and civic leader Seymour Weiss died Wednesday night in Baton Rouge after suffering an apparent heart attack. He was 73.

Mr. Weiss had attended an executive meeting of the board of the Department of Commerce and Industry of which he was vice chairman.

He became ill after returning to his room at the Prince Murat Inn and died about 7:30 p. m.

S. L. "Buck" Wright of New Orleans, another board member, said Mr. Weiss attended the meeting throughout the day and showed no sign of illness. He became ill around 6:30 p. m., however, and a doctor was called.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p. m. Friday from the Tharp-Sontheimer Funeral Home at 4127 S. Claiborne ave. Rabbi Julian Feibelman will officiate. Interment will be in Metairie Cemetery.

Mr. Weiss was a former owner of the Roosevelt Hotel.

HONORED IN 1957

Mr. Weiss was known in many parts of the world as one of America's top hosts and hotel operators.

The American Hotel Association crowned Mr. Weiss as this nation's "Prince of Hospitality" at a testimonial dinner in his honor at the Palmer House in Chicago April 11, 1957. A 300-page testimonial signed by hotel men throughout the nation was presented Mr. Weiss on that occasion.

At various times he served as a director and member of the executive committee of the AHA, president of the Louisiana Hotel-Motel Association and president of the New Orleans Hotel Association. He held also many offices in civic associations and was an of-

ficer and director of a number of commercial corporations.

Born Friday, Sept. 13, 1896, at Bunkie, Mr. Weiss was the son of Samuel and Gizella Weiss. His late father was a native of Austria, and his mother was born in Berlin. He lived for eight years in Bunkie, where he obtained his first schooling, before the family moved to Abbeville after his father's death.

In his teens, he moved to Alexandria to work in the Weiss and Goldring department store, operated by his uncle. He came to New Orleans in 1916 to work in the Crossett Shoe Store, then at 710 Canal Street.

During World War I he served in the United States infantry, returning to the Crossett store as a clerk at the war's end. Following the death of Louis A. Crossett he applied to Arthur Benigilia, then manager of the Roosevelt Hotel, the name of which had been recently changed from Grunewald Hotel, for a job. He was made manager of the barber shop. He held that job five months before he was made business promotion manager. In succession he became assistant manager, manager, vice-president and, in 1931, president and managing director.

He served as president of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, member of the Louisiana state board of commerce and industry, member of the board of managers of the Delgado Trades and Technical Institute and later as chairman of the board when the institution became Delgado College.

CIVIC POSITIONS

His civic positions included director of the New Orleans Chapter, American Red Cross; vice-president of the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission; vice-president of the Baronne Street Improvement Association; vice-president of the Metropolitan New Orleans Safety Council; and director of the Chamber of Commerce of the New Orleans Area and of International House and International Trade Mart.

The business responsibilities of Mr. Weiss were numerous. He was a director of the National American Bank, at one time president of the old Jacobs Candy Company, vice-president of New York's Belmont-Plaza Corporation, vice-president of the Win or Lose Corporation, director of the Auditorium Boxing Association, and president of the old New Orleans Professional Baseball Club.

In the late 20s and early 30s Mr. Weiss was one of the closest confidants of the late Sen. Huey P. Long. Following the senator's death he became chairman of the Huey P. Long Memorial Commission.

President Harry S. Truman issued a full and unconditional pardon to Mr. Weiss Feb. 12, 1947, after he had been sentenced in 1940 in connection with the Louisiana "scandals" of 1939. Earlier a federal parole board member had reported that Mr. Weiss had been paroled because of "exemplary behavior."

BROTHERS KILLED

In addition to the testimonial dinner in Chicago, many other public tributes were paid Mr. Weiss after he returned to operation of the Roosevelt Hotel. He was honored as "hotel man of distinction" at the Southern Hotel Exposition in Atlanta in May, 1951. The Young Men's Business Club of Greater New Orleans made him a life honorary member on May 1, 1963.

Gov. John J. McKeithen, when he learned of Mr. Weiss' death, said he was a "dear friend and a strong supporter."

"I didn't know him before I was elected but I learned to know him as a close personal friend," the governor said.

Delgado College president Dr. Marvin E. Thames said the college will be closed Friday because of the funeral. However, graduation exercises will be conducted as scheduled at 7:30 p. m. Friday at the Cafetorium, said Dr. Thames. A special tribute will be paid Mr. Weiss during the program.

Mrs. Weiss was to have been a participant in the graduation program.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

SECTION 1

THE TIMES-PICAYUNE

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Date: 9-18-69

Edition:

Author: GEORGE W. HEALY JR.

Editor:

Title:

SEYMOUR WEISS

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: N.O., LA.

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

The Bernard and Milton Weiss Annual Brotherhood Award, which is presented for promotion of better inter-group understanding, was given to the National Conference of Christians and Jews in memory of two brothers of Mr. Weiss, who were killed in an airplane accident near Shreveport while returning from a duck hunt in Southwest Louisiana.

Another brother, Johnny Weiss, died several months after the deaths of Bernard and Milton Weiss. The latter brothers lived in Shreveport. Johnny Weiss was a resident of New Orleans. His first wife, the former Notie Fay Turner, died in New Orleans in 1960.

SOLD HOTEL IN 1965

In November, 1965, Mr. Weiss sold the Roosevelt Hotel. Later he was elected to the board of trustees of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He also served as president of the Lovely Louisiana Tourist Association.

In May, 1966, he was honored at a testimonial dinner by the Greater New Orleans Hotel-Motel Association and the Louisiana Hotel-Motel Association. The dinner, held at the Roosevelt, was attended by executives of the industry

from throughout the country.

Last year, Mr. Weiss served as general chairman of the committee for the 250th anniversary of the founding of New Orleans.

In 1965, Mr. Weiss was named Distinguished Salesman at Large by the Sales-Marketing Executives of the Chamber of Commerce of the New Orleans Area. He also was appointed a member of the Small Business Advisory Council for Louisiana.

EFFORTS NOTICED

The Greater New Orleans AFL-CIO presented its third annual Community Service Award to Mr. Weiss in 1964. He also was honored that year by the Louisiana Historical Society for his efforts in preserving the James Pitot House on Bayou St. John.

Mr. Weiss was president of the American Hotel Charity Foundation.

He served on the board of regents of Loyola University, the board of Methodist Hospital and on the board of Fair Grounds Corp.

Survivors include his widow, the former Mrs. Elva Kimball, and his stepfather, Sol Kaplan of New Orleans.

Mr. Weiss resided at the Roosevelt Hotel.



SEYMOUR WEISS
Former Roosevelt owner.

9/18/69

PLAIN

WESTERN UNION

URGENT

(U)
MRS. SEYMOUR WEISS
ROOSEVELT HOTEL
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

I HAVE JUST LEARNED OF THE PASSING OF YOUR HUSBAND AND
WANT TO EXTEND TO YOU MY EXPRESSIONS OF DEEPEST SYMPATHY
IN YOUR GREAT LOSS. WHILE I REALIZE THERE IS NOTHING ONE
CAN SAY TO EASE YOUR GRIEF I DO HOPE YOU WILL FIND CONSOLATION
IN KNOWING THAT HIS MANY FRIENDS ARE SHARING YOUR SORROW.

J. EDGAR HOOVER

Seymour Weiss

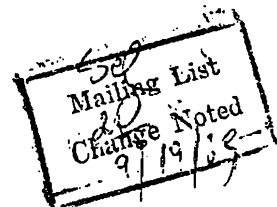
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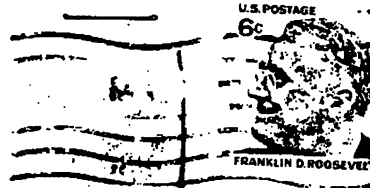
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 18 1969
504 PM EPT
WESTERN UNION



6 SEP 24 1969



Dear Mr. Hoover -

Thank you for your thoughtful and sympathetic telegram about Seymour. He would have been proud because of his great admiration for you - and so am I.

My loss is indeed great but it is comforting to know there are friends who care.

Sincerely,
Ebra Weiss

October 4th, 1969.

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
October 7, 1969

The attached note was sent to the
Director from Mrs. Seymour Weiss,
1069 Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans,
Louisiana 70140, and reads as
follows: *ELVA WEISS*

"Dear Mr. Hoover -

Thank you for your thoughtful
and sympathetic telegram about
Seymour. He would have been
proud because of his great admiration
for you - and so am I.

My loss is indeed great but it is comforting
to know there are friends who care.

Sincerely, *18 OCT 15 1969*
Elva Weiss

October 4th, 1969."

hcv

Seymour Weiss

MR. TOLSON ✓
MR. DELOACH ✓
MR. MOHR ✓
MR. WICK ✓
MR. CASPER ✓
MR. CALLAHAN ✓
MR. CONRAD ✓
MR. FELT ✓
MR. GALE ✓
MR. ROSEN ✓
MR. SULLIVAN ✓
MR. TAVEL ✓
MR. TROTTER ✓
MR. JONES ✓
TELE. ROOM ✓
MISS HOLMES ✓
MRS. METCALF ✓
MISS GANDY ✓

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